

## REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). The RCE and this Amendment replace the allowed claim 1 of the present application with new claims 24 – 31. Since allowed claim 1 was noted to be the same as claim 1 of parent patent no. 6,512,263, a new set of claims is being substituted for the allowed claim. A Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is also being filed herewith, citing two previously cited references not yet made of record and patents issued from the two applications that are parents to the present application.

It is believed that this application remains in condition for allowance, and an early formal indication of its allowance is solicited.

**EXPRESS MAIL  
LABEL NO:**

**EV437669050US**

Respectfully submitted,



Gerald P. Parsons  
Reg. No. 24,486

November 18, 2004  
Date

PARSONS HSUE & DE RUNTZ LLP  
655 Montgomery Street, Suite 1800  
San Francisco, CA 94111  
(415) 318-1160 (main)  
(415) 318-1163 (direct)  
(415) 693-0194 (fax)